

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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USDELMC BELGIUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128473

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MNUC, NPG

SUBJECT: NPG - FREDERIKSHAVN FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

REFS:

(A) USNATO 4867 (DTG 161422Z MAY 78);
(B) USNATO 4866 (DTG 161415Z MAY 78);
(C) USNATO 4815 (DTG 130240Z MAY 78).

1. YOUR COMMENTS IN REFTELS (A) AND (B) ARE QUITE WELL
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TAKEN, AND YOU SHOULD PURSUE THEM IN FURTHER STAFF
DISCUSSIONS. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL
TOPICS AS FOLLOWS.

2. ON FURTHER HLG WORK, SOON AFTER THE DUST FROM DPC
AND SUMMIT HAS SETTLED, WE SHOULD BE LAYING OUT A PROPOSED
WORK PLAN WHICH WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO REFTEL (C). OUR

INTENTION WILL BE TO CIRCULATE DRAFT WORK PLAN TO HLG PARTICIPANTS FOR THEIR COMMENTS, WITH INFO COPY TO PERMREPS. WE AGREE THAT DUE DATE FOR SUBSEQUENT PROGRESS

REPORT WHICH RESULTS FROM THE WORK SHOULD BE "AS EARLY AS PRACTICABLE." PERMREP REPORT SHOULD SAY, "THIS REPORT

SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AS EARLY AS PRACTICABLE FOR DISCUSSION BY NPG AT PERMREP AND MINISTERIAL LEVEL."

3. ON SHORT-TERM MEASURES, YOU SHOULD PROCEED AS YOU OUTLINE, THOUGH YOU SHOULD PROBABLY SOFTEN REFERENCE TO "INSTRUCTED" DISCUSSIONS, SINCE SOME FEELING-OUT OUGHT TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE COUNTRIES HARDEN THEIR POSITIONS. WE BELIEVE NPG, AS BASICALLY A DISCUSSION GROUP, CANNOT TAKE DEFINITIVE ACTION ON THE MEASURES. THIS WILL BE UP TO NATIONS INDIVIDUALLY AND BILATERALLY. BUT IT CAN CREATE THE INCENTIVES FOR SUCH NATIONAL ACTIONS. THEREFORE, THERE SHOULD BE NO INHIBITION TO DISCUSSING IN NPG THE ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, OR OTHER FORCE PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED, AS WELL AS THE OTHER CONSIDERATIONS MENTIONED IN IS DRAFT. ANY REPORT SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE SPECIFIC SHORT-TERM MEASURES, AND NOT BECOME AN ESSAY ON ALL ASPECTS OF MODERNIZATION.

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4. ON NUCLEAR AIR DEFENSE AND ADM STUDIES, YOU SHOULD GO SLOWLY. PEHAPS THEY CANNOT BE TAKEN UP IN DETAIL UNTIL MARITIME STUDY HAS MATURED. WE ARE NOT AVERSE TO SMALL GROUP ADDRESSING THIS SUBJECT, BUT NOTE THAT CALL FOR "SMALL GROUP" USUALLY EVOLVES INTO PARTICIPATION OF ALL NPG NATIONS. YOU SHOULD AVOID TOO MUCH STRESS ON EXPERTS, SINCE THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED FROM THE BEGINNING (NOT EVENTUALLY) FOR ITS POLITICAL AND DETERRENCE ASPECTS WITHIN THE BROAD CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE, AND MILITARY SUPPORTING STUDIES ARE, OR WILL SHORTLY, BE DONE. IN SHORT, WE ARE NOT PUSHING THIS AT THE MOMENT.

5. ON MARITIME STUDY, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT SUBJECT WILL BE READY FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION THIS FALL. THUS, THE CALL FOR A PROGRESS REPORT CAN BE A RELAXED ONE.

6. FOR THE AUTUMN MINISTERIAL MEETING, PRELIMINARY AGENDA LISTING BY INTERNATIONAL STAFF APPEARS A LITTLE BUSY. OUR PRELIMINARY THINKING IS THAT THE AGENDA SHOULD BE KEPT SIMPLE,PERHAPSINVOLVING A DISCUSSION

OF ISSUES RAISED BY HLG IN THE MORNING, AND PRESENTATION
OF A COMBINED STRATEGIC BALANCE AND SIOP BRIEFING
IN THE AFTERNOON. YOU SHOULD KEEP OPEN THIS POSSIBILITY.
WE ARE STILL CONSIDERING HOW THIS BRIEFING MIGHT BE
ORGANIZED. A BRIEFING BY SACEUR WOULD OF COURSE BE
APPROPRIATE, BUT FOR OUR PART, WE DO NOT AT PRESENT
PLAN AS EXTENSIVE A BRIEFING AS WAS GIVEN IN JUNE 1976.

7. WE WOULD THINK IT APPROPRIATE FOR PERMREPS TO MEET
IN MID-JUNE TO DISCUSS THIS WORK PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY
IF THEY ARE PERSONALLY TO ASSUME THE MANAGERIAL ROLE
THAT THEY PRESSED PRIOR TO THE FREDERIKSHAVN MEETING.
WE DO NOT BELIEVE SUCH MANAGERIAL ROLE SHOULD BE
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ENTIRELY DELEGATED TO THE STAFF GROUP, SINCE MANY OF
THESE TOPICS WILL REQUIRE FIRM POLITICAL SUPERVISION.

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